

## COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER

WALTER G. SMITH : : : : : EDITOR.

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## THE COUNTRYMEN OF ST. PATRICK.

This is St. Patrick's day and it is a good time to consider whether Hawaiian white labor colonization should continue to ignore the Irish peasant.

The hard-working Irishman has done more for America, in its formative stages of development, than any other laboring man. He has built most of its railroads, dug most of its canals, tilled millions of acres of its lands, laid its pavements, its bricks and stones and mortar and applied himself to every enterprise which called for brawn and industry. And he has steadily risen, through his American-born descendants, to places of responsibility. At least three presidents of the United States and some of our greatest soldiers, have shared his blood. No race has shown a greater capacity for Americanism than his.

John Bowler, after his latest visit to Ireland, insisted that he could get ten thousand young Irishmen to come here and work on the plantations and small farms. Seeing how many countries have gained an Irish laboring population, there would seem to be no reason why Hawaii should not do it. Ireland sent 42,000 immigrants to America last year and thousands more to Australia, Argentina and Canada. She has plenty of brawn left. Would it not pay the new Hawaii which is looming up—the Hawaii of small farms and widely disseminated wealth as distinguished from the feudal Hawaii where everything good was for the few—would it not pay Hawaii, we say, to get as much of this brawn as possible for its own industrial use?

The only objection we have heard to this proposal came from a man who wants Italians and is afraid that Irish laborers would all be Democrats. It does not strike us as a valid plea, even granting that the premises are right. What Hawaii needs is citizen labor of the kind that redeemed the mainland from the wilderness and left a pure American posterity; and so far as devotion to such citizenship is concerned we should put for more faith in an Irish Democrat than in a macaroni Republican.

## MR. ROGERS WILL ANSWER.

The statement has been made in behalf of Mr. Henry H. Rogers, oil magnate and lieutenant of John D. Rockefeller, that if the final decision of the Missouri courts is against him, Rogers will answer the question of the state's attorney relative to his company's violations of law that he has insultingly refused to reply to up to this time. It is very gratifying that a man in the position of Rogers has been brought to a realization at last of the fact that there is a power above him in the state.

Rogers, and the men he represents, have for years defied the law, and flouted its powers. Profiting by that corporate wealth which is the law's creation, they have seemed to deem themselves safe in the most open and notorious breaking of legal enactments. For them, there have been no laws save those which called corporations into existence, and bestowed upon them powers inimical to the interests of the people. This defiance of the creator by the creatures has been one of the most remarkable incidents of that tendency of the times leading to the combination of great interests.

The state of Missouri, in bringing Mr. Rogers and the Standard oil to time, has given an impressive demonstration of the continued existence of the superior power. The creature can not rise above that which has called it into existence—and the common jail, which catches men who indulge in contempt of court process, has still its terrors for the multi-millionaire. It is a healthy sign. Attorney-General Hadley has conferred a service upon the nation.

Andrew Hemrich, the Seattle brewer, confirms the statement, long ago made in these columns, that the boycott of American goods in China was started by Chinese students who were formerly in the United States. Of such students Hawaii educated a large quota. Facts such as these open up a wide field of speculation as to whether the foreign education of Asiatics has been profitable in any sense to the white powers bestowing it. It certainly has not paid those powers to raise Japan into their own class, neither in a military nor a commercial way. In war Japan has suddenly upset the balance of power in Europe and left Germany free to attack France. She may make vast trouble in future. As respects commerce, Japan will stop importing goods that she can make and raw material which she and her colonies can supply and enter the international lists as a competitor in manufacturing and trade. Indeed she is there now. Educating a bright people to compete with you does not seem to be any brighter performance among nations than it would be among individuals.

The idea that the Democrats should ask leave to nominate Mr. Roosevelt for President on their own ticket in 1908, is not so unexampled as it seems. At intervals since 1856 the Democrats have been in search of Republicans to lead them and once they found their man. It was their avowed purpose to run Grant for President in 1868, but he declined the honor. Greeley, the most bitter anti-Democrat in the country, accepted it in 1872 and led the "great unwashed," as he used to call them, to an inglorious defeat. The Democratic preference for Roosevelt is said to rest on his alleged conversion to Democratic principles, but how it could find consistent expression in the face of the historic antagonism of the party to a third term remains to be seen.

The idea that civilization is the death of Indians depends on the quality of the civilization. Western civilization has not always agreed with the noble red man but he seems to thrive on the kind he gets in New York. There are now 5060 Indians domiciled in the Empire State. Twenty years ago the census found 4800. Thirty years ago the number was 4707. Forty years ago it was 4139. A full half century back the New York tribes numbered 3934. Apparently the square deal and a fair chance are as good for Indians as for white men.

Japan's proposal to put the railroads under control of the government is backed by fiscal and military reasons. Railroad business is growing in Japan and its revenue would help the government out in paying interest on the foreign debt. Whenever armies and munitions have to be used it is desirable to close the railroads to the public and cheaper to do it where such roads are not in private hands. Probably the Tokio government, owing to the patriotism of the courts, will be able to get the railroads of the empire at a bed rock price.

The stated objections to Mr. Pinkham's lagoon plan may be easily remedied. It would be practicable to make curving streets on the real estate tracts, thus avoiding the checkerboard effect. And the lagoon itself might curve more than it does at but slight increase of cost. Art being satisfied with a remodeled plan, it would be highly gratifying to know that a way had been found to finance a measure of such practical value to the sanitation of this city.

The denial by the administration of any purpose to invade China may be accepted in absolute good faith. Of course the administration will not order the invasion of China. The administration has not the power. But it need surprise nobody to see President Roosevelt call the Senate to his aid in the consideration of affairs in the Central Flowery Kingdom.

Since mountain rains have paused, storms have twice swept in from the sea and refreshed the parched earth. This was the case yesterday. The unexpected downpour was most stimulating to plants, animals and people alike. It extended all over the island and was especially heavy, it is said, at the sources of reservoir supply.

Editor Vaughn of the Eureka Californian, took three shots at a rival journalist who called him a "dyspeptic"—and good enough cause, too. But there might have been a better justification if Vaughn really had been one.

The appeal of the South Sea island hurricane sufferers for help should meet with a quick response certainly from Hawaii—and the quicker because that in these blessed islands such disasters are unknown.

If the Washington state militia has really been given a hint to be ready for war, it is most likely streaking it for the tall timber by this time. There is plenty of timber to hide in, too.

## DID ARGYLL SHOOT KING?

(Continued from Page 1.) among other things, abstinence from the use of tobacco, which is a great deprivation to a man who has been a lifelong smoker. The correspondent of The Sun is unable to gain any confirmation of this report. To be sure, his voice when delivering the speech from the Throne, opening Parliament, was husky and sometimes inaudible but his general weakness, which is quite apparent, would account for this. He has aged rapidly during the last few months. His hair and beard are now as white as snow, and his appearance is almost haggard.

IN A RABBIT HOLE.  
"The best information is to the effect that his Majesty is suffering from phlebitis of the leg, following a hunting accident, when he stepped into a rabbit hole. He is unable to walk even a few steps without a cane and his general condition suffers from his long deprivation of exercise. Dr. Sir Frederick Treves and Dr. Sir Felix Simon visit him almost daily, and they are hopeful that they will be able to reduce the malady."

"Reynold's Newspaper tomorrow will say: 'The unsatisfactory condition of the King's health was plainly noticeable at the opening of Parliament. Despite denials, official and otherwise, it is plainly evident that his Majesty is not nearly so strong as he was even twelve months ago. His face is thin and somewhat haggard, while his hair and beard are much whiter than they were a few months ago. His voice, too, has lost a great deal of its former power and at times it is quite inaudible. The limp, too, with which he walked for some time past seems to be more accentuated. Under these circumstances it is impossible to doubt any longer that the King is really ill, and it will take more than a denial by Lord Knollys or any other court official to convince the nation otherwise. Still, it is more than probable that the usual official contradiction will be forthcoming.'"

EFFORT AT CONCEALMENT.  
Clearly, an effort has been made to conceal, not only the real condition of the King, but the manner of his injury. Edward is now on the continent of Europe, and it is said will visit the countries along the Mediterranean before returning to London. It has not been asserted, however, at any time that his lameness would prevent his getting about, and evidently it doesn't. But that he is by no means as strong as could be hoped is very apparent from the Sun's cablegram.

The original purpose of keeping the cause of his hurt a secret, it is said, was because of the effect the story or such an accident might have upon the money markets of the world, and upon the policies of various foreign offices. If it should have been cabled over the world at once that the Duke of Argyll had shot the King of England, even accidentally, the effect produced might have been tremendous—and the husband of the Princess Louise would have been compelled to spend the balance of his natural life explaining that the accident was really an accident. Even as it is, if this tale as now told be true, and Edward is lamed for life or his health shattered as a result of his hurt, the contretemps must be an unpleasant one for the great Scottish nobleman.

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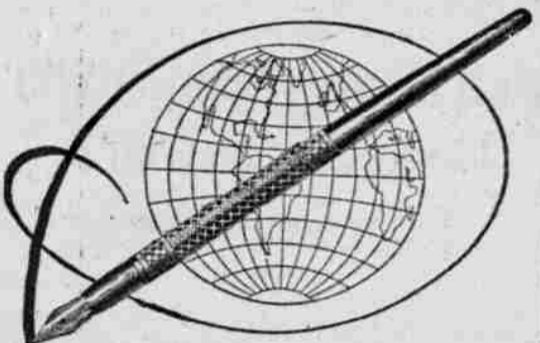
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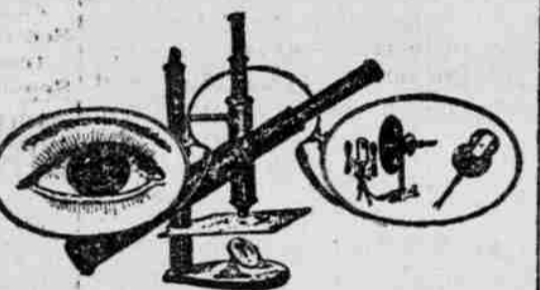
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